

Accountability Board Meeting June 11, 2009

### **TOPICS**

- ARRA Update
- The CDOT Center For Equal Opportunity
- CDOT's DBE Program
- CDOT's Good Faith Efforts Analysis
- Additional Outreach Efforts
- Good Faith Efforts Joint Committee

## ARRA UPDATE

### **ARRA Overview**

• The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

• Infuses \$787 Billion into America's economy.

• \$46.51 Billion is earmarked for transportation.

### **CDOT** Projects

- CDOT is responsible for overseeing \$385 Million in ARRA funds throughout Colorado.
- To date, \$5.5 Million in ARRA funds are committed to Colorado DBEs through contracts let for bid.
- A DBE goals analysis is conducted on every ARRA funded project. To date, CDOT projects have met or exceeded the goals with one exception.

# THE CDOT CENTER FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

### **Overview**

The CDOT EO Office is responsible for overseeing Federal civil rights program areas, including DBE, OJT, and Title VI.

The EO Office's ARRA efforts include an outreach program which has impacted hundreds of small businesses through project specific events held in every CDOT region of the State.

### **ARRA Job Readiness**

- The ARRA legislative intent was to put Coloradans to work. CDOT is partnering and working to ensure that Coloradans benefit from ARRA projects. To that end, we have reached out to other State agencies.
- CDOT has partnered with the Colorado Workforce Centers to place the unemployed and underemployed in highway construction jobs.
- CDOT has developed on-the-job training (OJT) programs to train and place minority, women, and low-income individuals in good paying jobs.

## CDOT's DBE PROGRAM

### **Overview**

- CDOT's DBE Program is established in accordance with Federal law and is administered pursuant to that law.
- CDOT has a DBE Program plan to achieve DBE participation in all Federally funded projects.
- CDOT civil rights professionals evaluate all projects for potential DBE opportunities.

### **Good Faith Efforts**

- Federal regulations require CDOT to conduct a good faith efforts (GFE) analysis whenever a low bidder does not meet the contract specific DBE goal and award the contract so long as the GFE requirement is met.
- CDOT has developed a good faith efforts process based on Federal regulations and input from industry stake holders.
- Over the past four-years, approximately 11% of projects have required a GFE analysis.
- Recently, FHWA included CDOT in a national training that highlighted CDOT's GFE process as a best practice.

#### **Additional Outreach Efforts**

- CDOT is currently making every effort allowed by law to utilize small and disadvantaged businesses.
- CDOT is constantly measuring its DBE participation and investigating how to increase that participation.
- As a result of recent industry input, CDOT is proposing to form a GFE Joint Committee to assist in its investigation.

# GOOD FAITH EFFORTS JOINT COMMITTEE

### Mission

The Joint Committee will be charged to conduct a public review of CDOT's current GFE standards on an expedited basis.

CDOT staff on the Joint Committee will update progress to: (i) the Colorado Transportation Commission; (ii) CDOT's Executive Director; and (iii) the Colorado Economic Recovery Accountability Board.

### Members

- Business Community
- Public Interest Groups
- Colorado Economic Recovery Accountability Board
- CDOT
- Attorney General's Office
- FHWA